sanctioned by the Council to the Bhagavatula Charitable Trust on any of the activities listed.

(b) CAPART have sanctioned 4 Projects to the Bhagavatula Charitable Trust in the areas of (i) Strengthening the infrastructure, (ii) Drinking water supply (iii) Integrated Prawn & Salt Production and (iv) Design development and propagation of buffalo-cart.

Discontinuance of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

2476. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to discontinue or alter Jawahar Rozgar Yojana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to discontinue Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is under consideration of the Government. However, Government of India has taken up the work of Concurrent Evaluation of JRY through independent institutions/organisations to assess its impact in the rural area in relation to stated objectives of the programme. In the Concurrent Evaluation, which has already been launched, the impact of programme on the type of assets created under JRY, its usefulness to the society, in general and to poor sections of the community, in particular and the contribution of the JRY to the welfare of the family below the poverty line are the main points of the evaluation.

The Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission has also undertaken a Quick Study of JRY in 10 major States of the country to assess the extent of employment provided, quality and usefulness of the assets created etc. The Government concurrently amends the programme guidelines on the basis of the results monitoring and evaluation.

Technology Mission for Rural India

2477. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAV RAO JADHAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the technology missions working for the development of rural India;

(b) whether Government have any plan to remove the economic imbalances between urban and rural population of the country by the implementation of technology missions; and

(c) if so, what are those and how Government are going to implement it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) There is no exclusive Technology Mission working for the development of rural India. Poverty elleviation programmes in rural areas are taken up under Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, etc.

In order to speed up the process of socio-economic development, the Central Government had decided to take up certain activities in mission mode by setting up the following Technology Missions with specific objectives:

* Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission;
* National Literacy Mission;
* National Mission on Telecommunications;
* Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses;
* Technology Mission on Immunisation;
* Technology Mission on Dairy Development.